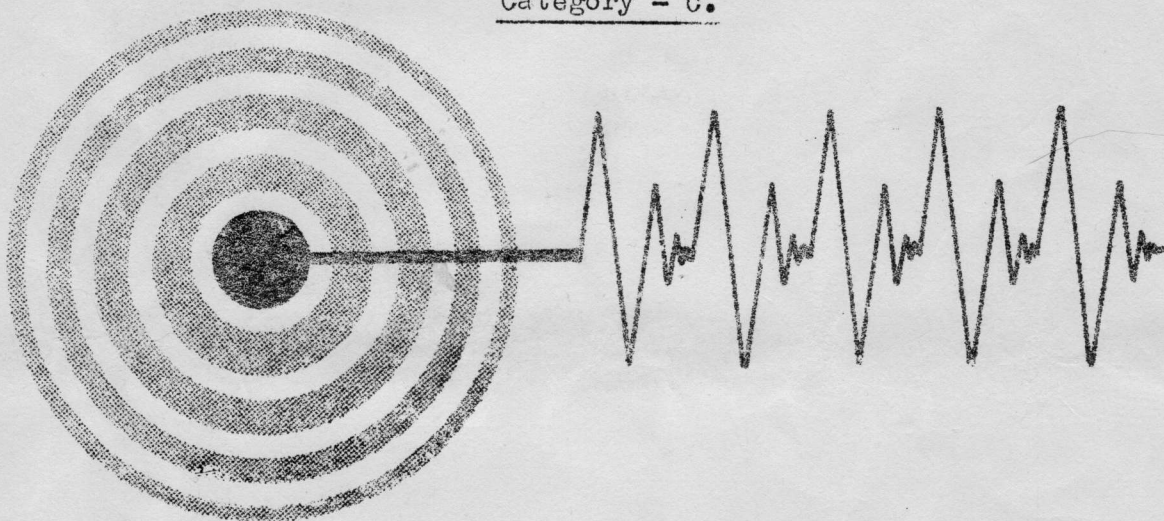


A.C.O.S. BULLETIN

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Journal of
AUSTRALIAN CO-ORDINATION SECTION,
CENTRE FOR UFO STUDIES

P.O. BOX 546, GOSFORD NSW., 2250

AUSTRALIA

DEFINITION

We define the UFO as the reported perception of an object or light, seen in the sky or upon the land, the appearance, trajectory, and general dynamic and luminescent behaviour of which do not suggest a logical, conventional explanation and which is not only mystifying to the original percipients but remains unidentified after close scrutiny of all available evidence by persons who are technically capable of making a common sense identification if one is possible.

Dr. J. Allen Hynek

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EDITORIAL.

by H. Griesberg & D. Seargent.

Interest in UFOs has waxed and waned so much over the past 20 years, that it is probably dangerous to prophesy on any future trend, but (with due caution) we may now be able to read the signs of a new wave of interest in the making, and if we are correct in our "reading of the signs", we must make every effort not to let the chance pass us by.

Unfortunately, there are a few things in life that are more certain than the treatment of UFOs by the newspapers and, already, the increasing interest has brought two stories of a very questionable nature to two consecutive editions of a certain sunday paper. The first story was allegedly "investigated" by a person of very doubtful qualifications in the UFO field and pronounced genuine - and reported as such in the paper. Only later, proper investigation by researchers associated with ACOS revealed the whole thing to be a very thinly disguised hoax. Needless to say, the retraction did not appear in any newspaper.

Then, one week later, we read the story of a man who wants to buy a "flying saucer" and trip off to another planet. (we read some odd classified ads, but this is too much.)

Yet another article in a different newspaper of June 2nd, quoted a spokesman for a UFO organisation (which, by the way, is NOT affiliated with ACOS, thank heavens) to making certain statements. As the article is too lengthy to reproduce here, we just quote some of the statements made by this spokesman.

"We have had 100 reports in our state since christmas," says Mr.H. "All are investigated by our men. Some are hoaxes, some can be explained. At least 50-60 percent can't be identified however. The things don't come at any particular time, nor to any definable areas. It takes concentration to see them. Authenticated cases have been spotted over busy highways by

only the occasional driver. Many are sighted by night workers such as nurses or policemen, who are alone and alert."

Mr.H. still can't define his subject exactly. "Some are manned, some not. They are here on differing missions. Their propulsion sources appear to vary." Mr.H. feels that some spaceships use a form of magnetic power and are prone to travel along the earth's lines of strongest magnetic force. Others are thought to be electrically powered, drawing replenishment from high-tension cables.

For some mysterious reason, sightings proliferate when Mars periodically reaches its nearest point to earth. "Perhaps," says Mr.H., "there may be underground life on mars - and even all the planets."

"There's no proof that they have harmed humans. However they have certainly left cattle mutilated after landing. The animals have been cut by surgical instruments either for experimental purposes or to supply something needed aboard the UFOs."

This goes to show that some people already have identified UFOs. Then, why, are we still studying the phenomena? Needless to say, we are glad that none of the ACOS organisations have made the above statements.

On the other hand, the outspoken claims of the Prime Minister of Grenada and President Carter will certainly have lifted the "crackpot" associations from the minds of many people, and few newspapers will wish to make Big Jimmy seem a kook. Moreover, even in the post-Nixon era, many Americans still probably want to imitate the President and this might lead to UFOs (and squaredancing) becoming the "in thing" in the USA.

Add to this the plans for motion pictures ("Close Encounter of the third kind", for instance - which by the way, should be released in Australia beginning of next year,) and the number of magazines now available, and we seem to have all the makings of a UFO revival. Lets hope it is a sober one that will do some good in the research field and not some crank-dominated hysteria.

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EDITORIAL.

by Dr. J. Allen Hynek.

All UFO investigators are aware that the great majority of "raw" UFO reports turn out to be reports of IFOs. This is because the general public is woefully untutored about the nature of puzzling (only to them) but quite natural things in the sky. Not only astronomical objects - twinkling bright stars ("It couldn't have been Capella, it was flashing different colours"), planets ("Oh, it was much too bright for a planet") or meteors ("A meteor? - oh no, it lit up the whole sky"), but man-made objects as well: satellites, scientific balloons and advertising planes whose rotating "message lights can indeed fool many people.

Experienced investigators quickly recognize IFOs for what they are. But sometimes it takes hard work to unmask the masquerader, as in the case of the Las Vegas light. Some "ufologists" seem overly anxious to make a UFO out of every strange sounding report. This impedes and discourages serious interest and work on the subject.

IFOs can be important in themselves in serving to "calibrate the system." Familiarity with IFOs helps in the evaluation of the truly puzzling cases. Each month we find a small residue of UFO reports which defy explanation as IFOs, but the Las Vegas light was not one of these. It is a fine object lesson for all of us.

The recent survey of members of the American Astronomical Society by Dr. Sturrock of Stanford University on their attitudes about UFOs, furnishes us with an excellent example of the "theorem" that scientists will often express "in private" an interest in a controversial or "taboo" subject but will not discuss such interest "in committee" before a group of his peers. A striking 52% (or 1356) of the astronomers queried answered, yet

only two allowed their names to be used. Thus, 99.99% did not want the public, and hence their peers, to know how they answered the questionnaire. This is particularly interesting since more than half of the astronomers felt the UFO problem was worthy of scientific study, but they were unwilling to let their feelings known to others - a striking example of the "committee complex": express the "safe" opinion to your peers and thus preserve your image as a "no-nonsense", practical down-to-earth scientist.

The "committee complex" may well have played its part in the Condon Committee and much earlier in the Robertson Panel, the recommendation of which set the pattern for the Air Force's handling of UFO reports.

Oddly enough, there has always been private interest in UFOs among astronomers. In a very confidential survey of 44 astronomers, I made in 1952, I found that five, or eleven percent, had made sightings they couldn't explain. The sample is small, but it does support the results of the Sturrock survey. Some fifty-seven percent expressed interest in UFOs and felt they deserved study, but only by scientists. A number of them stated that they would discuss UFOs and even personal sightings but only under strict anonymity. All were deathly afraid of publicity. So - little has changed - the Committee Complex is with us as strong as ever.

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SUNSPOTS AND UFO SIGHTINGS.

by D. Seargent.

You may remember, way back at UFOCON ONE, a very interesting paper, prepared by Mr. Stan Seers of Queensland, was presented by the delegates from that state.

This paper argued for a correlation between days in which UFOs are reported and the sunspot numbers for those days, such that days of peak relative sunspot numbers are likely to produce high numbers of UFO reports.

The evidence appeared convincing - three graphs all of which showed that on days of sunspot peak, large numbers of UFOs were reported, however there seemed a difficulty in that this was apparent only when the relative (not absolute) frequency of sunspots were considered. In other words, why should UFOs peak around a very minor sunspot maximum during a quiet sun period, and not around a sunspot low at a time of active sun, when the "low" in an active period is frequently far more active than a "high" during periods of little general solar activity?

Graphs of solar activity over time showed little correlation with graphs of UFO activity over the same period, neither do flap years show any relationship with years of solar activity. Furthermore, no particular sunspot peak corresponds with UFO activity of unusual strength - it only happens that there is a greater likelihood that a sighting will be made at the time of some peak.

With these thoughts in mind, I repeated the Seers experiment for 1968 reports, with the results shown in fig.1. This seems to confirm the Seers results. In this graph, 0 represents days of sunspot maximum. In fig.2, 0 represents days of sunspot minimum.

For figs. 3 and 4, a similar procedure was followed, except that, instead of graphing UFO sightings, I graphed predicted maxima of meteor showers. As these are constant over a number of years, there is no way that they could depend upon, or influence, sunspot activity, and yet, they were found to show a stronger correlation than the UFO reports.

WHAT IS GOING ON HERE ?

Simply this, I would suggest. There is NO real correlation between sunspots and UFOs, any more than there is between sunspots and meteor showers. The reason that most reports fall on days of solar activity is simply because these days are so frequent that any event is likely to fall on some day of solar activity, irrespective of whether this event is a UFO sighting, a meteor shower or a riot at the Stock Exchange.

For there to be any real correlation between UFOs and sunspots, the graphs of the frequency of these phenomena would need to rise and fall correspondingly, and this does not happen. (graphs next page)

UFO REPORTS 1968.

Fig.1.

No. of reports.

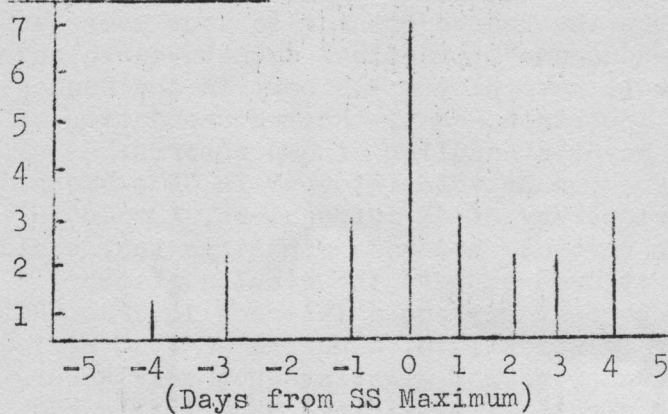
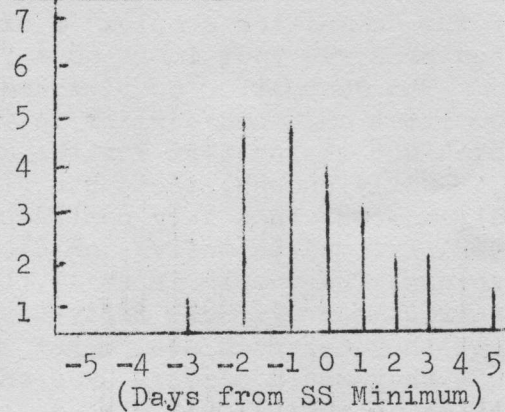


Fig.2.

No. of reports.



METEOR SHOWERS 1968.

Fig.3.

No. of showers

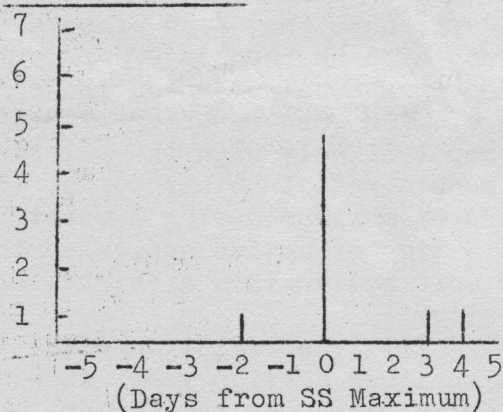
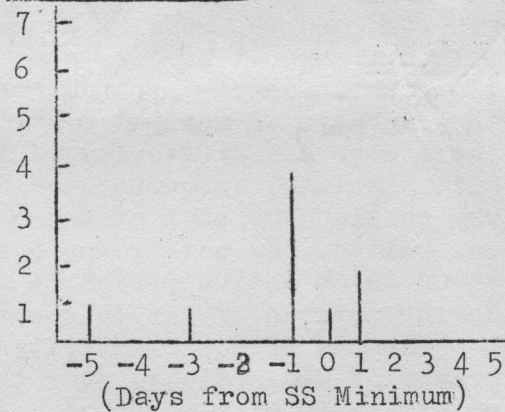


Fig.4.

No. of showers



A POSSIBLE TIME PATTERN FOR CERTAIN CLOSE ENCOUNTERS. by K.Basterfield & D. Seargent.

Close encounters may be subdivided into those which (speaking anthropomorphically) may be termed "accidental" and those which may be termed "deliberate".

In a paper presented at UFOCON TWO, in October last year (1), Keith Basterfield drew attention to this division which could be made and illustrated it with four "accidental" and six "deliberate" cases. The basic thought in sub-dividing close encounters like this was a simple one.

We will define an "accidental" encounter as:-

"A report where an encounter is alleged to have happened and the phenomenon's reaction was to discontinue the encounter," for example Eucla (S.A. 8.5.72) or Willaston (S.A. 28.6.63).

A "deliberate" encounter then becomes:-

"A report where an encounter is alleged to have happened and the phenomenon apparently 'made the first move'," Murray Bridge (S.A. 30.11.72) is an example of this.

With a view to finding possible diurnal patterns in close encounter cases, the times of the events were examined and the following preliminary results obtained.

Firstly in a sample of 32 cases where times are given and we can also fairly clearly apply our criteria above we find that "accidental" and "deliberate" cases occur at any time of the day or night.

This appears to indicate that the pattern is accidental and tends to follow human habits (i.e. it is a pattern of observation rather than something intrinsic to the phenomenon) (2)

However upon examining "deliberate" cases we considered a sub-division of them into two categories. Firstly when the reporter was awake and secondly when the reporter was initially asleep and awoken by a "voice", "feeling", "noise" etc. Here, we found a difference:-

"Accidental" Type A (14 reports) : scattered throughout 24 hours.

"Deliberate" Type B (12 reports) : Likewise, scattered.
(awake)

"Deliberate" Type C (6 reports) : 0130 to 0430 hours.
(asleep)

As would probably be expected we found that Type C were nighttime reports, but they were concentrated from 0130 - 0430 (a three hour period) instead of say scattered through the normal sleeping period of 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. (7 hour period).

Wondering whether this had any significance we then looked at a sample from Dave Webb's "1973 - year of the humanoids." Type B ("deliberate" awake) appeared from the limited sample, to occur at any time of the day but with a peak around 9 p.m. to midnight. Type C ("deliberate" asleep) times were 3 a.m., 3.45 a.m., between 1 & 5 a.m. (unspecified) and one borderline type C case at 0015.

Moving on to check a larger sample in Jacques Vallee's "Magonia" list we were disappointed in view of the paucity of Type C cases and of missing information regarding time of a number of reports which we could have used. However from the reports which were suitable, a maximum between 0230 - 0330 was apparent for type C events.

So it would appear from our sampling that cases where reporters were awakened from sleep occur in a three to four hour segment of the 'night'. What type of reports occur?
In Australian cases we have the most details available and will therefore tabulate only these on this occasion.

<u>Location.</u>	<u>Reporter.</u>	<u>Stimulus to awake.</u>
Belmont (NSW)	Woman	Intense buzzing noise.
Gum Creek (SA)	Woman	Just awoke.
Hilltown (SA)	Family	Noise.
Flinders Park (SA)	Woman	Whirring noise.
Ivy Tanks (SA)	Woman	Voice.
Childers (Qld)	Family	Intense buzzing noise.

Summary of event.

Belmont - Entity in garden - woman gets witness - entity gone.
Gum Creek - Entity on front lawn 'takes photo' of witness.
Hilltown - Green ball on ground - leaves upward.
Flinders Park - Entity walking round object - woman gets witnesses - gone.
Ivy Tanks - Entity enters object.
Childers - Entities gathering samples - ignores witnesses.

So, five out of these six (Type C reporter awake) cases were entity reports (4 ERA, 1 ERB) and four out of six involved single (i.e. one) women (the other two were families of 1 male, 2 females and 1 male, 3 females respectively).

These findings appear to indicate that type A and B close encounters reports occur at any time, but that type C show a clustering in the early hours of the morning which may point to some feature in the phenomenon itself, the electromagnetic conditions existing at that time of day (4) or it may simply be related to the fact that these hours represent a 'low' in people's circadian rhythm(3).

A larger sampling is now needed to confirm if these initial findings can be verified and answer the question "Is this apparent peak in type C reports due to some psychic/psychological/social effect or does it indicate that UFOs are more frequent during these hours, or alternatively that the 'force' giving rise to them is more potent at this time?"

NOTES.

- (1) "Some thoughts on psychological aspects of Australian Close encounters with the UFO phenomenon" by Keith Basterfield and Ben West, Sept. 1976.
- (2) Peak times found from 215 close encounter reports within Australia and New Zealand are 2000 - 2200 and 0200 - 0400 hours.
- (3) Keith Basterfield in (1) speculated as an alternative hypothesis to the popular extraterrestrial theory that close encounters are generated by human minds and postulated that for a person awoken from sleep coming from a dream state to reality the mind might 'generate' an event.
- (4) This time of day shows a peak in electromagnetic waves of alpha like 8 Hz frequency and a low electrical gradient of the atmosphere.

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IS ZETA RETICULI THE HOME OF AN ALIEN CIVILIZATION?

The Betty and Barney Hill abduction case is already a legend in ufology and will no doubt take its place in the history of our race as one of those strange happenings which are destined to become enshrined as myth.

However, in our own time, it has been the source of an intriguing and hotly debated contention viz. that evidence in the form of a star map seen by Betty Hill whilst allegedly on board the craft (and later recalled under hypnosis) may provide a clue to the nature of the UFO mystery and the source of these objects.

In recent issues of "Astronomy" magazine, and now in a colourful 33 page special edition of that magazine, the debate over this possible discovery has been documented. In this present article, we will only attempt to relate the most important points as to do justice to the publication would take entirely too much space.

Briefly, although three star patterns have already been found to fit the Hill map, only one seems satisfactory in the sense that the stars visited are similar to the Sun (exobiologists now believe that stars need to be very similar to the sun to sustain life-giving planets, and such stars will be, of course, of prime interest to space travellers), revealing logical progression of the routes taken and not involving extreme distances.

The map concerned was that constructed by Marjorie Fish, schoolteacher and amateur astronomer, from a consideration of a three dimensional model of the most likely stars within 50 light years of the Sun. It is this map which has caused the discussion and argument, as (taken at face value) it appears to pinpoint the base of the Hill's UFO in an hypothetical planetary system of Zeta 2 Reticuli.

Which stars, however, are the most likely ones to support life and how many are there within 50 light years of the Sun?

There are some 1,000 stars within this distance, however most of them are either too cool to support life or they are members of close double systems which make the formation of planets unlikely. A few are too hot and short lived, while others emit frequent bursts of radiation which would make life on any otherwise suitable planet intolerable.

In fact, when all is considered, it appears that only stars relatively similar to our own Sun are really suitable, and of the 1,000 known stars

considered, only 46 appear satisfactory. Included in this list of suitable stars are our suspects, Zeta 1 & 2 Reticuli.

The Zeta Reticuli system is a double star, although the component stars are too far apart to prevent planets from having formed, as far as we can tell, on our present knowledge, (or lack of it) regarding planetary formation. In fact, the distance between them is about 100 times the distance from the Sun to Pluto - too far to cause any interaction of solar systems, but sufficiently close to render planets (at least the largest planets) of one system visible to the telescopes of any inhabitants of one of the planets of the other. This in itself has been suggested as a strong incentive to the early development of interstellar travel.

Likewise, although both stars are somewhat older and poorer in metals than the Sun, our lack of knowledge regarding planets and life does not permit us to say whether this would prove fatal to the development of earthlike worlds there. It may be, however, that the relative scarcity of metals would rather render technological civilization unlikely, but even this is far from certain.

In other words, we cannot tell from mere consideration of the stars themselves whether the Zeta Reticuli system is a home of life, although it should be said in all fairness that few exobiologists would expect to find life - especially advanced life - so close at hand.

Nevertheless, the evidence of the map is impressive. Could it all be co-incidence? Dr. David Saunders does not think so. He calculates that if the Hill map and the Fish map were perfect matches, the chances of pure co-incidence would be about 10,000 to 1 against. However, the two maps do not match perfectly and this approximation reduces the chances somewhat; to about 1,000 to 1 against - still very impressive.

However, such reasoning has been attacked by Carl Sagan, Steven Soter and the related problem of the uniqueness of the map has been raised by Robert Scheaffer. Briefly, Sagan and Soter attack the alleged correlation from the point of view of the "reading into vs reading out of" problem. That is to say, if enough ad hoc assumptions are made and if (on the basis of these assumptions), a pattern is constructed, the fact that the chances that such a pattern would have occurred is very low, becomes virtually irrelevant. Such subtle selection, known as the statistical fallacy as "the enumeration of favourable circumstances" necessarily leads to large but spurious correlations.

Sagan and Soter point out a similar example of spurious correlation viz. the apparent correlation between oppositions of the planet Uranus and Andean earthquakes. The fact that this correlation does not work with other planets or with other earthquake areas makes it virtually certain that it is spurious i.e. there is no physical reason why there should be such a correlation. Pseudo-sciences such as astrology thrive on such spurious correlations, but true science must beware of them.

If enough correlations are sought, one will eventually be found, but the number of correlations tried will be so large that the one which appeared to strike paydirt will be meaningless, especially if special ad hoc constraints are added, as they appear to have been, according to Sagan and Soter, in the Hill-Fish map case.

For instance, the star Zeta Tucanae is conspicuous by its absence from the map, an omission explained away by Saunders in terms of the star being occulted by Zeta Reticuli. However, this leads into a circular argument viz. "The map represents the view from Zeta Reticuli, at least it would if Zeta Tucanae was also included. However, assume that Zeta Tucanae was occulted by Zeta Reticuli, then the required match would emerge. Therefore, Zeta Tucanae was occulted by Zeta Reticuli."

If the fallacy of this argument is not immediately obvious, try this similar one. "Bill Smith murdered Tom Jones, at least we could say this if he had not been speaking at the Service Club at the time of the murder. However, assume that it was not Bill Smith, but some previously unknown

double of Bill Smith who was speaking at the Service Club, then he would have been free to commit the murder. Therefore, Bill Smith murdered Tom Jones." If you think this argument can stand up in court, you may believe the former one.

In a similar manner, Robert Schaeffer points out that the other two maps (a map of Pegasus by Betty Hill herself and one based on Epsilon Indi by C.W. Atterberg) represented an equally close statistical correlation (in fact the Atterberg map is an even closer fit than the Fish map) and that the superiority of the Fish map rests upon astronomical presuppositions regarding the types of stars involved. These presuppositions are reasonable - e.g. all the stars allegedly visited by the aliens are sun-like stars - however this does not answer the statistical problem. Schaeffer very reasonably asks how many other patterns of stars could be found to fit the Hill map and I personally think that he could be answered with as many possibilities as there are stars, no doubt many of these patterns having reasonable arguments as to why they should be considered THE interpretation.

It seems to the present writer that the Zeta Reticuli incident, while interesting, falls short of the promise to provide us with information regarding the nature and origin of UFOs. In fact, even if it could be established that the map was valid, Betty Hill's report that the aliens stated that they had visited the earth "several times" could hardly account for the frequency of UFO reports - more than one per day. All of these don't come from Zeta Reticuli, but then, where DO they come from? Why all this interest (from so many widely dispersed planets) in our little world at this particular time?

If anyone wants a tall co-incidence, look no further than this.

Secondly, the Zeta Reticuli incident is also weakened somewhat by weaknesses and inconsistencies in the Hill's story itself. Sagan remarks that the Hill's case is "riddled with internal and external contradictions" - e.g. the failure of the alleged UFO to be recorded at the weather station on Mt. Washington, even though it should have been conspicuous from there Betty's confusion of the UFO with the planet Jupiter on at least one occasion and the like. Perhaps the whole case could be explained in psychological terms and then, of course, the "star map", and its promise of information re extraterrestrial beings, falls by the wayside.

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A MATTER OF FACT.

by K. Basterfield.

In reviewing some close encounters involving vehicles, it has come to notice that we may not have been gathering enough facts to discount conventional explanations for headlights going off, engines dying etc. One extreme example I've come across of the peculiarity of the modern motor car was related by an auto electrician who whilst driving around a corner experienced an inexplicable total blackout of lights for a few seconds. Later, he found that it was caused by a metallic object he had left in the boot which slid from its position and produced a short circuit by linking an exposed tail light wire to the metallic car body, whilst the car travelled round a bend. Couple this with an observation of the moon rising through trees on the horizon and one could have the makings of a UFO report.

Five cases in which vehicles have been involved and associated objects were also reported, have been reviewed and some relevant questions and answers have been tabulated below in order to compare vehicle reactions.

For the purpose of this exercise I have sub-divided the cases into two categories, i.e. (table A) where the reporters' vehicle stops and another (table B) where the vehicle did not.

One can note that in the three category A cases, no ignition lights came on (as far as I can ascertain) as would be the case if the vehicle had stalled. Although the reporters each tried to start the car they were not successful and the vehicle could not be restarted (or did not restart) until the object left. I would propose that in close encounters where vehicles were involved that we should carefully ascertain the type of information shown in the tables. To this end, a specialist report/information sheet is being prepared by UFO Research Inc. (SA).

TABLE A.

	KADINA SA.	FRANKSTON VIC	MURRAY BRIDGE SA
Location	country road	country road	country road
Date	sun. 8.8.71	tue. 25.7.72	thu. 30.11.72
Time (local)	1835	2115	2315
Witness	male 51 married	woman 37 mrrd.	male 19 single
Conditions	dark	dark	dark
Initial stimulus?	orange hue	blue hue	engine & lights varying
Were headlights on?	yes	yes	yes
Did these go off?	yes	unknown	yes
Did engine stop?	yes	yes	yes
Did reporter pull car up?	yes	no, car did	yes
Did ignition lights come on ?	no	no (?)	no
Did reporter try & start car?	yes	yes	yes
Any result ?	no	no	no
Did reporter get out of car ?	yes	no	no
Any sound ?	buzz/purring	?	no
Any object ?	yes	yes	yes
Where ?	150' over car	over car 100'	150' away ground
Did it stay there ?	yes	yes	yes
How long ?	2-3 min.	minutes	45 mins.
Did object leave ?	yes	yes	yes
Could car be started?	yes, reporter did	yes, by itself?	yes
Did lights work ?	yes	yes	yes
Did reporter touch controls ?	yes	yes, no effect	yes
Which ?	braked to halt	brake/clutch/wheel	braked to halt
Velocity of car prior?	unknown	unknown	c.a. 70mph

TABLE B.

	Yatala Vale Rd. SA	Kalyan SA
Location	country rd.	country road
Date	fri.22.4.77	wed.2.5.73
Time (local)	2345	1930
Witness	fem. 19 single	male, married
Conditions	dark	dark
Initial stimulus	object approached	light in distance
Were headlights on ?	yes	yes
Did these go off ?	yes	yes
Did engine stop itself ?	yes	yes
Did reporter pull up ?	no	no, braked slightly
Did ignition lights come on ?	yes	no
Did wit. try and start vehicle ?	no	no
Any result ?	n/a	n/a
Any sound ?	no	no
Any object ?	yes	yes
Where ?	passed over car	in distance
Did it stay there ?	not seen	yes
How long did vehicle stop ?	seconds	seconds.
Did object leave ?	yes	yes
Did vehicle engine start itself ?	yes	yes
Did lights come on ?	yes	yes
Did witness touch controls ?	no	yes
Which ?	n/a	braked slightly
Radio effect ?	yes	n/a
What ?	went off.	n/a
Battery affected ?	unknown	flattened

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A PARABLE.

(Introduction to Chapter Seven of "The Structure of the Universe" by Professor Jayant Vishnu Narlikar.)

DISCIPLE: Reverend Guru, please explain to me the most salient feature of a good scientific theory.

GURU: I will do so with an example. Suppose I offer you a choice between two clocks: one is permanently stopped; the other gains a few minutes every day and has to be readjusted. Which one will you choose?

DISCIPLE: I will choose the second one.

GURU: Are you sure ? The second clock will never give you the exact time, whereas the first one will give you the right time twice in 24 hours. So think again.

DISCIPLE: Venerable one. What use is the first clock to me if I do not know when the right time is ? I am satisfied with the second clock because I know that the time it tells is approximately correct within a few minutes.

GURU: Now you will appreciate what a good scientific theory must do. It must make predictions which can be tested by observations. Like the second clock, it may be imperfect in that its predictions are only approximately true. But it is always to be preferred to a theory which, like the first clock, has no predictive power.

INVESTIGATIONS INTO ENTITY REPORTS WITHIN AUSTRALASIA.
A STATUS REPORT.

by K. Basterfield.

The December issue 1976, of the ACOS Bulletin carried an article "Some notes on a point of definition", in which I suggested the use of a new classification system for entity/ufo reports, and also announced the formation of an Australian Entity Study Group.

Since then, the group has collected together details of 45 ERA, 5 ERB 17 ERC and 2 ERD cases (plus 4 presently not classified), in all a total of 73 events.

These cases have been summarised and published in the following publications, copies of which have been forwarded to all Australian UFO organisations:-

- (1) An Australian Catalogue of Close Encounter type three reports.
- (2) Supplement 1-4 to (1)
- (3) An update on research into entity/ufo reports within Australia .
- (4) Twelve New Zealand humanoid cases.

Supplements 5 and 6 to (1) are in the process of being printed, and one case, (10 mile Hill 2.8.76) has been published in detail from TUFOIC files. Copies of all these documents are available from UFO Research Inc. SA 2A Castle Ave. Prospect South Australia 5082.

The Australian UFO Computer file is now using the ER classification in lieu of close encounter type three, as it more rigorously defines items we are interested in.

This means in effect that the classification system is being used by all Australian groups.

Previously, no one had such a collection of entity cases and this is now available to all researchers from the AESG documents. What needs to be done now is some research upon the information gathered, preferably beginning with a double check that the information we have is correct and factual. Once this is done we should use these facts to get some coherency out of the information. To this end any person who can suggest any research ideas for the entity collection, please contact Keith Basterfield at 3 Park Lake Drive Wynn Vale South Australia 5127. I will be only too pleased to discuss any ideas. One line I am pursuing at the moment in conjunction with close encounters type 1 and 2 is continuing along the lines of my UFOCON 2 paper i.e. psychological aspects of close encounters.

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A SUGGESTION FOR A MORE OBJECTIVE LOOK AT "REPORTS" by K. Basterfield.

A "strangeness-probability" classification was given to reports by Allen Hynek in "The UFO Experience" (1) as a means of attempting to determine the reliability/credability of an actual report.

The "strangeness" of a report is defined therein as the number of unusual items which are required to be explained. A case in which two people travelling in a vehicle state that a metallic disc hovered over them in broad daylight and that they took photographs of it would be of higher "strangeness" than one where a white light was seen moving across the sky.

The "probability" that an event happened as described is the other criteria used in this system. Together they provide a numerical evaluation, i.e. S=4, P=6 giving an idea of how "good" the case is. Hynek states that an SP of 35 should represent a case worthy of science taking a look at it.

I would like to suggest an additional system in which one of the first questions we need to ask ourselves is "How reliable is the information we have gathered?" i.e. how close is the description we have to the event as it is claimed to have happened at the time.

We may have a subjective impression that a case sounds very good but just what do we base this intuitive thought on? In a case such as Kimba (SA 1973) intuitively, as one of the investigators I regards it as a reliable case. However, Clare (SA 67/68) is a very questionable report, as we hardly know anything about it.

I have been seeking some more positive way of describing reliability and am proposing to use a series of questions and answers as a basis. One poses three questions of the report:-

1. "Where did the account originate from as far as we know?"
2. "Where did we pick it up from?"
3. "Has it been investigated?"

Let's take these at a time and discuss them. Firstly where did the account come from? I would judge that reliability of information here must be placed in relation to distance from the source, i.e. from the reporter, in such a way that we may assign 'weights' :-

| <u>'Weight'</u> | <u>Information from</u> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | Direct from reporter |
| 2 | An (Australian) ufo organisation's files in the form of an interview/tape recording/notes. |
| 3 | Media sources, newspapers, TV, radio OR from a book or magazine. |
| 4 | Second/third hand or hearsay. |

Secondly, where did we pick it up from? A similar system to the above is used:-

| <u>'Weight'</u> | <u>Information from</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | (Australian) ufo organisation's files |
| 2 | Media sources OR book/magazine |
| 3 | Second/third hand or hearsay |

Lastly, has the report been investigated? (2) If it has we would expect that the information obtained would be more complete and more likely to have been checked in some way. I'll assign:-

| <u>'Weight'</u> | <u>Item</u> |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 | If the report was investigated in detail |
| 2 | If it was investigated fairly well |
| 3 | If only slightly checked and |
| 4 | If not checked at all. |

For example Blenheim (NZ1959) was taken from a book which quoted a newspaper. Thus I assign weights of 3, 2 and 2, giving a combined weight of 7. Taking other reports we find Central NSW (11), Berriedale (5), Fiji (9), Adelaide Hills (11) and Greenacres (3). Thus a case which was investigated by UFOR (NSW) (Greenacres), reported in their files and investigated in detail, comes up as more reliable in information content than a case reported in a book from a newspaper (Fiji) with no investigation, which in turns scores less than a reported rumour of an event (Adelaide Hills). Lower numbers here implying better reliability of information.

So much for reliability, what about a more sensitive item, "How 'good' is a report?" I have decided to tackle the question in a similar way to reliability by way of assigning weights to various individual factors.

Factor 1. would be how reliable is our data, which we have just arrived at. Factor 2 is "what is the credibility rating of the witness?" This is possibly the weakest part of our estimates as this can only be taken in the light of the general view of society as a whole. A married woman 30 years of age, with three children whose occupation is a school teacher (Salisbury 1964) is considered more stable and reliable than a 17 year old unemployed youth (Daw Park 1976) by our standards. In order to reduce such a subjective assessment to the minimum order possible I will use only:-

| <u>Weight</u> | <u>Item</u> |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Witness(es) is considered reliable |
| 2 | Questionable reliability or unknown |
| 3 | Unreliable witness(es) |

Factor 3 - "What is the considered opinion of the person looking at the report as to what caused it?" In this particular instance reports with more investigated details should 'score' less i.e. better.

| <u>Weight</u> | <u>Item</u> |
|---------------|---|
| 1 | Unknown -- on the information available we can see no natural/normal explanation. |
| 2 | An alternative suggestion is available OR we cannot determine a cause due to lack of information. |
| 3 | The explanation is considered an earthly/normal one. |

With these ideas in mind we will assess how 'good' a case is with a few examples:-

| | <u>Factor 1</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----------|-----------------|----------|----------|--------------|
| Kimba | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Fiji | 9 | 2 | 2 | 13 |
| Clare | 11 | 2 | 2 | 15 |
| Salisbury | 3 | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| Ivy Tanks | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |

Overall, we arrive at a situation where we have a number between 3 and 17 which gives us some indication of how reliable and how good a report is with the lower the number the better the case is.

One immediate useage of this type of analysis would be the assessment of all reports being placed onto the ACOS computer in this or a similar manner (3). This would then provide the reader of a printout with an immediate visual clue to the usefulness of a case, which we do not have at the moment. It is no good basing an argument/hypothesis on hearsay material (4).

On a longer range basis I hope we will be able to create a more searching look at the basic data we have from a report and utilise more objective and less subjective impressions than we have in the past (5). Science seems to demand objective research in any topic and we must provide it if we wish science to take a serious look at the UFO phenomenon.

- (1) "The UFO Experience" by Dr.J.Allen Hynck, pp 15-18
- (2) The term 'investigated' is meant here to be taken in the way of an interview by someone who can extract some useful information out of the original reporter. This may exclude newspaper style investigations on many occasions.
- (3) This is something that even Dr.Saunders' UFOCAT does not provide.
- (4) Indeed at the moment many people's lines of reasoning as to the 'existence' and 'extraterrestrial cause' of the ufo phenomenon is based on misconception of what the basic facts really are.
- (5) Each report of course must be treated on its merits. There is just as much 'evidence' of sorts for entity reports, as there is for physical trace cases i.e. we cannot prove either.

THE CE 3 EXPERIENCE IN AUSTRALIA -the first accounts

by Bill Chalker B.Sc. Honors.

I regard September 1976 as a particularly significant period for it saw the publication of "An Australian Catalogue of Close Encounter type 3 Reports" compiled by Keith Basterfield and myself. Therein were documented 36 cases of CE3 type activity and related entity events. Since then, many more events featuring alleged entities of interest to the UFO researcher have been ferretted out from diverse sources. It has become necessary to rigorously apply the definition of "occupancy" as related to a UFO event to categorise these cases. Thus we are left with a large body of evidence, (over 80 cases) featuring cases directly related to UFO events, with entities having no apparent UFO connection, but of a similar nature, other anomalous anthromorphic forms that may be of interest to us (i.e. some apparitional cases, some hairy anthropoid events etc.) and other less direct but significant cases.

While the 1893 central NSW paralysis case is germane to the idea of UFO entity encounters, the events surrounding an alleged encounter with a "spirit" and an invitation to enter an "ark" ("a machine to go through the air") back in 1868 at Parramatta NSW, embodies what may be Australia's first contactee story.

Aboriginal myths incorporate the idea of "sky-beings", with the Wandjina being perhaps the most interesting from our point of view. While the Wandjina paintings of the Kimberleys have received all manner of interpretation it is fascinating to see that the indigenous tribes view the Wandjina as "the spirit IN the cloud". Indeed, the paintings show a logical sequence from human figures to stylised representations of clouds. This duality of a humanoid being and "clouds" finds an arresting parallel in "Exodus" with the "pillar of fire by night" and "the cloud by day", which on occasions landed. In "Exodus" 33,9-11 we find this interesting passage: "And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle ----" "And the Lord spoke unto Moses face to face AS A MAN SPEAK UNTO HIS FRIENDS----" Which gives us some interesting food for thought.

The "experience of death and rising again" in the initiation of tribal men of "high degree" finds a more pertinent parallel with modern-day contactee lore. In these situations, a tribesman is set upon by "spirits" and is "killed" and ritually disembowelled. "Sacred stones" or "crystals" are then allegedly placed within his body. He is then "restored to life" and informed of his new standing as a "medicine-man". He is schooled in skills befitting a "shaman" and the "spirits" take him "away up into the sky". He is then returned to his own camps, remains "in a more or less dazed condition" for several days, but gradually "he recovers and the natives know that he had been made into a medicine-man. When he operates the spirit Munkaninji is supposed to be near at hand, watching him, unseen of course by ordinary people." That sort of aboriginal myth has many parallels with modern "contact" and "abduction" accounts and is a possible connection, certainly worth pursuing.

Apart from the 1893 and 1868 incidents, the 19th century is barren of UFO entity accounts. The latter half of the 19th century saw numerous accounts of what became known as the "Hargreaves Hairy Man". The aviation pioneer Lawrence Hargreaves took an interest in contemporary accounts of hairy anthropoids, but predictably had to run a gauntlet of derisive public opinion. It was these accounts and even earlier ones (even ones in aboriginal folklore) that preceded the recent interest in the "Yowie" - our local variant on the "Yeti" or "Bigfoot" theme. But it is apparent that these accounts are of limited interest to UFO researchers.

1899 saw a variant on the English Springheel Jack leaping amongst picnickers in a park at Bendigo allegedly "breathing fire" as it went. It seems that an associate of his put in an appearance in the Melbourne

suburb of Kew, during the first decade of the 20th century, terrifying the local populace with his frightening appearance.

1909 and the skies over the green-valed dominion - New Zealand - played host to what seems to be the first real wave of antipodian UFO "occupants". The airship scare of that year produced at least 6 entity reports. These include two figures in a narrow boat-shaped aerial craft which circled a manned dredge in the Waikaka Valley on July 30th; "three persons" in "a large torpedo-shaped structure" one of whom **shouted** out to the witness in "an unknown tongue" at Waipawa on August 3rd and occupants of "Japanese" appearance whom alighted from an "airship" and engaged an onlooker in conversation at Port Malyneux.

The bout of "aerialists" made its way into Australia by early August 1909, but no occupant reports are extant from that period. At least one source cites an "airship" operator report as having occurred at Invercargill, New Zealand, during January 1910. Several witnesses were alleged to have seen a cigar-shaped object hovering at 30 meters altitude. "A man appeared at a lateral door and was heard shouting some words in an unknown language".

From then on, for the next 30 years, there are no known Australian entity reports, save an unconfirmed anecdote that emanated out of rural NSW. It is almost identical to the 1893 story, but the witness's memory was allegedly "never the same" after the entity apparently engaged in some activity about his craft, turned on him with a weapon of some sort.

The fourties produced three events of interest to us here. At Wearyan River in the Northern Territory during 1941, "two men" dressed in white operating theatre gowns, appeared out of nowhere and unsuccessfully operated on a shotgun accident victim. During the winter of 1944 or 1945, a nurse came upon an "upturned saucer" and several "little fellas" inside "transparent cases" in the Port Hills area, near Christchurch, New Zealand. One of the beings, who was no more than 4 feet tall, was situated outside the landed object. The entities appeared to be green-coloured forms inside transparent oblong casings. They had quite large "heads" in proportions to their bodies. When the witness moved closer, the little being "drifted" into the vehicle through a very small opening. The object then took off. Later that night the percipient alleges she became aware of a presence - "an external spirit guiding me" which stayed with her for about a week. Precedent for the theorised psychic connection? Perhaps. The idea of "little green man" had yet to become science-fiction lore" but only a few years later in 1948 we find them appearing again. At Berridale in Tasmania. 2 women saw a very bright round object almost directly overhead. As it began to move, they observed to their surprise, "little green men sitting on the side of the object." Whats more, a strange sound like music was heard. But wait, it sounded like music to the tune of "three blind mice" !

As the modern age of "flying saucers" enveloped us it seemed primarily apart from an extensive UFO flap centered in Victoria during 1954, that the phenomena was largely American in origin. But several entity stories did come to the surface during these early years. A few of them may have been the product of the fertile minds of American writers. The "Sunday Telegraph" of January 23rd 1955 carried one such story, which emanated from a doubtful and less than authoritative source - the American monthly ~~were~~ magazine "Sir". The account although very suspect is germane to the powerful atavistic fears of the unknown and the contemporary paranoia associated with the heinous effects of "atomic radiation". It is only for this instructive perspective that I'm going to quote in detail from it.

The Magazine "Sir" quotes from the "first-hand account" of W.C.Hall in recounting his story of that "fateful day" in October (unspecified year) when in what was professed to be a "true story", six flying saucers landed on the North Queensland sheep station. According to the story, Hall was inspecting his locust-ravaged 15,000 acre property on horse-back. The sky was "overcast but vision was good across the broad plain". Riding to the top of a hill in a remote section of his farm, he heard a "soothing whirring

sound that almost made me drowsy". Hall then saw 6 tiny white dots descending. They landed in the open pasture about $\frac{5}{4}$ of a mile from him. Hall said: "The atmosphere became strangely calm. There was no breeze, no draft." Riding closer, he saw they "were about 30 feet tall, and elliptical in shape with a rim or ramp running around the bottom."

"Through my binoculars, I could see they were white in colour with a streak of blue running like a ribbon across their middle sections. Then I saw people get out of the objects. There were about 12 men, and from a distance they appeared to be perfectly normal. They were garbed in uniforms like those worn by American paratroops whom I saw in Australia during the war. All stood in a huddle and seemed to be discussing something- - - when I arrived about 300 meters away, the strangers got out of their huddle and, for the first time, saw me. The men paused indecisively for a moment then ran back to their machines. I was close enough now to see ladders of about 10 rungs which hung from the side of each of the tank-like objects. The men ascended and disappeared inside."

Hall heard the soothing whirring sound again as the machines "arose from the earth."

"My horse reared violently, and things began to happen. As I dismounted the air became completely clear and I dropped to the ground. I don't know why. I just dropped to the ground."

An odd-kind of "exhaust fume" spewed out of the objects and settled towards the earth.

"For about 5 minutes the things hung suspended in the sky, giving off the fumes before zooming off to become once again only white dots in the grey overcast. I blanked out, but ----I became clairvoyant ---- instead of a locust-ravaged land, I saw my ranch a broad plain of fertility exceeding the imagination ---- sheep, cattle, grass and all manner of animal and plant life grew and multiplied at an astonishing rate of speed".

According to the story, while it all was emmersed in these visions, he lost all sense of gravity and floated about 5 feet into the air. By now, the objects had disappeared into the grey overcast. When Hall awoke from his trance, he found his horse "lying on the ground, senseless". But 5 minutes tugging at the reins, managed to get him back on his feet. Within 2 months, Hall's ranch was allegedly transformed:

"Ring-bark trees stood like forests where a few weeks before, the land was void of vegetation. Rabbits, the plague of good pasture land, bounded everywhere, devouring the grass as fast as it sprouted from the earth. The next year on the ranch was fantastic. Grass grew, not as a natural process but came up matted, creating a soft rug of green over hundreds of acres on both sides of the river which ran through the ranch. Chickens multiplied like rabbits and some of the newly-born chicks had 2 feet (he probably means 3). Cattle almost doubled themselves in number, and some of the heifers were born with 5 legs. The wool of my 1500 head of sheep became thicker than ever before."

Hall predictably attributed all this to the "atomic radiation" and "magnetic rays" possibly given off by the "exhaust fumes" which may have changed the "genes of animal life" and effected vegetation. The article ends in a mood of melancholy. Hill thinks he will not prosper due to the plague of "jack-rabbits" and he fears for the baby his wife was about to have " - - - every night I pray the gene changes won't affect the normal life of our child."

The "Sir" article also attributes a rather dubious and contradictory photo to W.C. Hall. The photo shows a "flying saucer" uncanny like a car hub-cap above a rather contented-looking flock of sheep, and unfortunately I have seen this photo bandied about in the early UFO literature. The "Telegraph" reporter made a cursory check on the name of W.C. Hall. A search of Queensland country telephone directories failed to turn the name up.

Similarly a story generally accepted by UFO researchers may be suspect.

I refer to the Unmatjera tribe occupant report of early 1951. Now although the Unmatjera tribe does in fact exist, no documentation of the report has been forthcoming, other than the original form in which it appeared, namely in "Flying Saucers - Serious Business" by Frank Edwards. All subsequent versions that appeared in the literature appear to be based on the Edwards account. I have made a check of all the major Sydney papers in the month of September 1951, and have not found the story, which surely could have been given some coverage if it had occurred at All.

Interestingly enough, Harold T. Wilkins detailed the following tantalising rumour in his 1954 book, "Flying Saucers on the moon". Allegedly, a U.S. Marine, overheard the following discussion between a marine and a professor at Palomar observatory:

"I have heard, too, a strange story that a landing field had been found in one of the Australian deserts, whose origin is unknown. The Australian Royal Air Force authorities are said to have cordoned off the area, and no one is allowed in there. They are trying to find the origin of the landing field, which they do not believe was made by any terrestrial being."

Enquiries made on Wilkin's behalf allegedly elicited the following statement from the RAAF:

"WE HAVE NO COMMENT TO MAKE."

The 1954 flap gave us the May 30th East Malvern report, where 3 of the 6 witnesses saw "human-shaped shadows" in an object that passed overhead. One of the percipients, David Reese said: "I could distinctly see inside it, dark shapes like busts". He added, "Well, I saw - or I should say I appeared to see - shadows inside the object. To me they looked human. They were immobile and could have been anything but humans - pieces of machinery, for instance. But if it had been a plane flying and I had seen similar figures, there would have been NO DOUBT in my mind that I was looking at passengers". One of the other witnesses wasn't quite so sure. Christopher Muir felt the glow of light from "portholes in the machine" could have lead some of the other witnesses into thinking they had seen "persons on board the craft."

The strange Stuart affair based mainly at Hamilton, New Zealand is a tantalising mixture of close UFO sightings during 1954, harrassment, strange unseen nocturnal visitations, an alleged UFO fragment ("a piece of grey-white metal") recovered after a sighting during February 1955, an entity report, a sexual encounter with a female investigator (referred to as Barbara ----- Stuart's assistant) being raped by unseen entities, and a terrifying encounter between Stuart and one of the entities concerned. The principals concerned -- John E. Stuart and Doreen A. Wilkinson (Barbara?) subsequently disbanded their 2 member organisation - Flying Saucer Investigators - during 1955 following the bizarre activity and alleged "men-in-black" activity. Stuart came out with a book "UFO Warning" which apparently covers the affair. The whole story reads like fiction and is perhaps just that. Has anyone anything that may throw light onto this whole affair?

During 1955, 3 young men - Max Clow (23), Alex Rose (29) and Peter Johnson (25) claimed they had a very unusual experience. They were driving through flat country covered by scrub and tall trees, some 14 miles from Eucla, on the South Australian border. They suddenly heard what they thought was a blow-out and stopped to check the tyres. It was then that Johnson allegedly pointed out a shiny object falling to the ground about 3 miles away. The trio decided to search out this object's impact. After an hours search, they found "jagged pieces of shining metal." Then they saw a moving figure some 50 yards away. The young men allegedly moved closer and watched the strange entity for about 25 minutes.

Describing it to reporters, Clow said: "It was like a frog from the back and a semi-human from the front, with a green cloak hanging to just above its knees. The 2 curved horns on each side of its head gave it a devilish

appearance. Its feet and hands were armour-plated and to make it worse, it was wriggling and swaying like a fish out of water."

Rose claimed he summed up enough courage, and moved near, to take some photographs. Then to the men's amazement, the entity began "to disintegrate before our eyes". The men did have a photo to back up their story, but unfortunately (or predictably depending on how you see the validity of the story) the picture poorly defines a rather vague and blurred "something" which may or may not be the figure the men described.

Before we consider the account of "a frog"-like thing from the back and a semi-human from the front, with a green cloak hanging to just above its knees, as so absurd to be rejected with any further thought, let me direct you to Alexander Polyhistor's rendering of Berossus's description of the "Annedoti", the alien race therein credited with the founding of the Babylonian civilization.

"The whole body of the animal was like that of a fish; and had under a fish's head another head, and also feet below similar to those of a man subjoined to the fish's tail. His voice too, and language, was articulate and human; and a representation of him is preserved even to this day -- when the sun set, it was the custom of this Being to plunge again into the sea, and abide all night in the deep; for he was amphibious".

Robert K. G. Temple in his scholarly book, 'The Sirius Mystery' also relates the Dogon tribal tradition of the arrival of the amphibious creatures that they contend found their civilization. They descended in an "ark" landing on dry land displacing a pile of dust "raised by the whirlwind it caused -- the violence of the impact roughened the ground -- it skidded on the ground? In a reference apparently describing the landing of the "ark" we find: "He is like a flame that went out when he touched the earth? It was 'as red as fire' and when the "ark" landed "he became white". Here we have what may be amongst the first "trace marks" followed by a creature encounter.

According to Temple's rendering of the Dogon tradition, after the ark had landed, something described both as a 'horse' or a 'quadruped' appeared. It pulled the ark with ropes to the hollow. The hollow then filled with water. The beings that emerged -- 'the monitors' or 'masters of the water' were amphibious. The 'Annedoti' likewise were amphibious. 'Annedoti' translates as the 'Repulsive ones' and no doubt the Nommo or amphibious creatures revered by the Dogon were also repulsive to some who saw them.

The 1955 Eucla tale, may be pure invention, but the "evidence" related to it -- the "jagged pieces of shining metal" and the "entity photo" demand consideration of the possibility that it was a genuine case. All 3 witnesses came from Melbourne, so it may not be difficult to trace them, even though some 22 years have passed since the incident allegedly took place. My reference to the Nommo and Annedoti and the possibility of a connection, demands that the Eucla account should be given the hearing of a detailed retrospective investigation. This investigation may entirely discredit the story, but if it does, we would be the wiser for it.

Nawaca Island in the Fijian Island group is the site of the next of our entity reports, that we have on record. 4 **Fijians** were dazzled and felt weak when "the figure of a man" standing on the outside of an aerial object hovering over their motorised punt, shone "a very bright light" onto them. The figures disappeared and the object rose rapidly and soon disappeared from sight. The date was October 1957.

Young Kim Marks gained some unlikely company, as he was preparing for bed on the night of March 12th, 1959. He saw a man with a crimson face, apparently 5 feet tall, sporting a red jacket and trousers with white trimmings. The boy's dog apparently remained oblivious to the apparition and after about 1 minute it disappeared. A few hours later, at 2.10 a.m., only a short distance from the Marks farm property, at Purnong, 2 men observed a large object exhibiting a display of lights on the ground.

The ambiguity and remoteness of these early antipodean entity accounts related thus far are thrown into sharp relief with the extraordinary nature of the reports that came out of Boianai Mission, Papua in June 1959. Father Gill and the natives from the mission saw a number of "men" engaged in some activity on an aerial object that hovered near the area. On the following night the object and the "men" on it returned, and the "men" answered the waves of the excited witnesses. In the "Edge of Reality" Hynek and Vallee indicate: "The sightings at Boianai, New Guinea ...retain all their mystery after many investigations and many attempts at explanation. The case is exceptional in the quality of the witnesses, the number and clarity of the descriptions, and the 'communication' it implies between human witnesses and the occupants of a UFO."

Our file of UFO entities close on the 1950's with the impressive Blenheim report of July 13th, 1959. Mrs. F. Moreland went out to milk the cows on her farm. Crossing a paddock, she noticed a bright green light among the clouds. Halfway across the paddock, she saw 2 green lights approaching. The entire area became illuminated with a green glow, and the air became warm. A saucer-shaped glow, with two indented green lights, came down with 2 rows of orange-coloured flames. The jets of flame stopped and a light was switched on in what appeared to be a perspex or glass dome which glowed. There were 2 men in it, dressed in close-fitting suits of shiny material. Opaque helmets rose from their shoulders. One of the entities stood up, placed 2 hands in front of him, then sat down. A minute or so later, the jets fired, and after tilting slightly the object ascended vertically at speed and was lost in the clouds.

More than two thirds of our sample of entity cases were to take place in the sixties and what we have seen of the seventies. But it is instructive to attempt to accurately define what went on before the sixties. The fifties and the century that preceded that decade have not been well documented. Research has shown that important cases did indeed take place during those early years. Any attempt to clarify the situation is worthwhile as far as I'm concerned.

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SUPPORT THE AUSTRALIAN ENTITY STUDY GROUP -c/o UFO RESEARCH, 2A CASTLE AVE., PROSPECT, SOUTH AUSTRALIA 5082.

A PERSPECTIVE OF CE2 ACCOUNTS.

by Bill Chalker.

A research team lead by the author, has just made a detailed investigation of a new UFO landing which occurred near Orange NSW on the night of May 26th, 1977. The case's multi-faceted nature more than adequately demonstrates the high information content generally common in landing reports.

There were animal reactions, 2 independent witnesses to the UFO, several others who also reported an accompanying auditory phenomenon, independent sightings during the same evening, marked after-image effects indicative of acute brightness of the observed unknown light source, and there were also unusual ground trace marks confirmed. These marks are already being analysed by Dr. Stevens, and some interesting data seems to have been unearthed, using the relatively new (to the UFO field) analytic tool-thermo-luminescence. But any conclusions must wait until the completion of the range of analyses planned.

A full report of this case should appear in both the following ACOS issue and the UFO newsletter of UFO Research (NSW).

To continue the spirit propounded in my previous paper - The CE2 Experience in Australia - I'll regularly be reporting on trace cases, both new and old. The latter have often faded into obscurity or have become obscured by time. Others have not even become common knowledge, mainly due to the hither-to poor lines of communication between the groups now co-operating through ACOS.

In this article, I'll detail a few cases which are not generally well known, but their nature demands close attention.

On the night of May 12th, 1969, at Casino, NSW, a Mr. & Mrs. R.E. Hinit were watching TV in the lounge room of their home in Parview Road. At 9.45 p.m., Mrs. Hinit got up and walked towards the kitchen. As she did so, she happened to glance through a doorway, leading out to the back verandah.

Her attention had been attracted by a bright glow in the neighbour's backyard. She walked out to the verandah rail to get a closer look at this strange light. She hurried back inside to call her husband out. It was raining very heavily at the time.

As they both stood there watching this glow, they wondered if someone was in the yard with a torch. Mr. Hinit called out several times. As the neighbour's house was unoccupied at the time, Mr. Hinit thought that someone may be prowling around. The glowing object remained stationary only 20 to 30 feet from their viewing position. They were watching from the corner of their high verandah, which is approximately 7 feet above ground level. The couple believed the object was just above ground level Mr. Hinit went out into the rain to investigate. While Mrs. Hinit kept watch, Mr. Hinit went over to the first of two paling fences which divide the properties. The 2 paling fences form a fowl run tapering from 4 feet at the verandah end of the house to 20 feet at the other end. The fences run for 66 feet. At this point, Mr. Hinit was about 12 to 16 feet from the object. He could not hear any sound except the heavy rain beating on the ground. As Mr. Hinit stood at the fence he wondered what he should do next. He began to feel a little frightened to go any closer, so he quickly backtracked upstairs to the verandah, from where his wife had been pleading him to come back.

As he returned to the verandah, they were startled by an intense light which began to move all the way up behind the 2nd paling fence, beginning from a point near the object to the full length of the paling fence. They estimated that the light took 4 to 5 seconds to reach the fowl-pen, which it completely lit up. All this time, the glowing object had not moved, and was glowing brighter than before. The beam of light seemed to be a solid light as it did not illuminate the surrounding area. As the couple looked much more closely at the object, they noticed that within the glow, were pulsating streaks or shadows making highly random movements. The object did not appear to be solid, but rather of a possibly gaseous nature, with high

luminosity, circular in shape and approximately 4 to 5 feet in diameter.

Within the next few minutes the object disappeared. The duration of the observation was between 10 to 15 minutes. Mr. Hinit returned to the verandah $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours later to check, the spot where the object had been. It was then 11.30 p.m. After a brief period, as his eyes had become adjusted to the darkness outside, HE NOTICED THAT THERE WAS A FAINT LUMINOUS PATCH WHERE THE OBJECT HAD BEEN. Next morning the Hinitts went over to check the lawn and the surrounding area. They found no markings or burnt patches. Incidentally, the CUFOS Trace Catalogue (1975) compiled by Ted Phillips quoting from "personal" files, incorrectly states that burnt patches were found. There were none. The only "trace" noticed was the "faint luminous patch", which may be similar to the luminous circular ring effect noted in the Delphos, Kansas case of 2-11-71. (1)

During June 1970, a truck driver travelling along the Pacific Highway adjacent to Emerald Beach, NSW, noticed what appeared to be a bright cigar-shaped object rising above the trees about a quarter of a mile away. The object eventually hovered for a moment, then descended apparently into a clearing amongst the trees. A bright V-shaped column of light could now be seen shining up from amongst the trees. The truck driver stopped and watched the object from a high vantage point. It was still visible between the trees and was on the ground, when fear overwhelmed the driver and he fled the area, after some 10 minutes.

It wasn't until 1973, that this report came to my notice. With the original witness, the alleged landing site was investigated for the 1st time during May of that year. Because the truck driver had sighted the object from at least 3 different points, an accurate position of the possible landing site could be determined. At that particular point, 6 circles of stunted grass and fern growth were discovered. Two were about 30 feet in diameter, the others were 21 feet, 15 feet, 15 feet, and $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter. One of the 30 foot circles had a number of charred limbs while the other was relatively well defined. The immediate area had a number of burnt and dead trees.

The entire site described a logical sequence of formation of the observed effects. It would seem that the object came in from the north, with the tops of trees being affected. It then apparently tried to land, knocking over trees in the process, leading to the formation of one of the 30 foot circles. Then it moved up again and came down again in a clearer area and landed, producing the well-defined 30 foot circle. While this mechanism is consistent with the witness's observations it does not explain the smaller circles. I deliberately withheld the exact location of the site to allow a protracted inspection. There were few physical differences in the sandy loam soil from inside and outside the affected sites, other than that the soil from outside the trace appeared more fragmented. Insect life inside the circles appeared to be absent and plant growth was retarded. The surrounding waist-high couch grass was almost totally absent. U.V. Spectroscopy revealed no difference in chemical composition of the samples taken from the site. I have returned to the site a number of times since first examining it back in 1973, and the major circles have shown no real sign of deterioration. The site has shown none of the characteristics of "fairy rings" often confused as "landing sites". (2)

On about November 5th, 1971, 2 locomotive men of the South Johnstone (Qld.) Co-operative Sugar Milling Association Ltd., were in the No. 2 branch area when the Traffic Control Officer tried to contact them by radio. Jumbled and incoherent voices were heard. Believing an accident had occurred a rescue party was sent out. One of the group observed a dazzling and powerful light in the area WHERE BURNT CANE, 'SCARRED BY GREAT HEAT', WAS FOUND. When they reached the driver and fireman, they found them stupefied, with one man repeatedly pointing to the sky. Both were taken to a hospital. (3)

Completely independently, UFOIC (now UFO Research NSW) received the following information, which seems to relate to this case.

"It was either during the in ward or outward trip of a loco, that driver and his mate saw a strange light in one of the cone fields. On investigation of the light, the men are reported to have seen some kind of strange object in the field - - The upshot was that they were placed in hospital, under sedation, for about 2 weeks, due to hysteria - -" (4)

The final case I'll cover in this particular paper emanates from the files of the Department of Defence (Air Office) and its existence is due to the RAAF policy of supplying "unknown" cases to individuals regarded by the RAAF to be carrying out constructive and responsible projects. Fortunately the Department of Defence have seen fit to supply copies of reports they receive of a trace nature, to me for inclusion in my trace catalogue.

A party of 2 young men and 3 girls were returning from a droving trip during the night of March 22nd, 1975, in northern Queensland. At about 10.30 p.m., some 58 miles from Nebo, the group noticed a strange light amongst the timber ahead. As they drew closer, they made out a rather curious object in a gravel storage area just off the road. As they drew level with the strange object, a tremendously loud bang, seemed to come from the thing. Their vehicle seemed to shake in response for a moment. The object appeared to consist of a row of flashing dull white to yellow lights, apparently attached to a large "box-like" mass about 3 feet above ground level, with a circular mass situated directly above. This sphere apparently some 10 inches wide consisted of several concentric rings of non-flashing bluey-green lights, with a central black disc. Some of the witnesses noticed what appeared to be a "pole" connecting these 2 masses, and 4 "legs" faintly discernable at the base of the whole complex.

Eventually the party fled the area, but as they drove by the object some of the witnesses saw that the upper circular mass of lights seemed to be "watching" them as they passed. Shortly after the 2 men returned with a road construction worker. The object was gone, but unusual indentations were confirmed. On the following day, a Nebo police officer accompanied some of the witnesses to the site. He also confirmed the indentations. On March 25th, an investigator from Townsville Air Force Base and a RAAF photographer examined the site.

The indentations consisted of 3 oval shaped areas; one roughly - circular area; and a rectangular area - all impacted on the gravel. Investigations did not reveal any likely explanation and I should point out that this case DOES NOT APPEAR in the Department of Defence (Air Office) Summary of Unusual Aerial Sightings for 1975. Perhaps this is because the object was not seen in the air. This is not likely as other cases, featuring only unusual marks on the ground have appeared in the summaries (5)

These 4 cases are indicative of the spectrum of reports that beckon our attention in the area of UFOs exhibiting effects on the environment. I'll continue to regularly carry details and reports about old and new trace cases so that all organisations will be aware of the extent of CE2 activity in Australia.

Likewise I ask all groups to report promptly, new cases that they may come upon. Also I ask of the groups that they rigorously check ALL their files for any information relevant to other trace cases. All information and enquiries should be directed to: BILL CHALKER, CE2 STUDY GROUP, P.O. BOX 1094 NORTH SYDNEY N.S.W. 2060.

REFERENCES:

- (1) Brief details originally appeared in "Northern Star" (Lismore), 15, 5, 69. Personal communication (in my personal files) from original investigator Mr. G. Testa.
- (2) Personal investigation - report in personal files. Press accounts based on my limited press release appeared in "Daily Examiner" (Grafton) and "Coffs Harbour Advocate" during June 1973.
- (3) "Evening Advocate" See also pg. 79 CUFOS Trace Catalogue.
- (4) Letter to UFOIC (now UFO Research NSW)
- (5) RAAF Report in personal files (HQTVL 5/40/Air Pt.3(15) 20 May 1975.)

NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR UFO STUDIES.A University course in Ufology.

Dr. Burt L. Monroe Jr., Chairman of the Department of Biology of the University of Louisville, conducted a course in Ufology from January to April of this year. We believe that the course was extremely successful, and enrollment was better than expected. Here now is the schedule of topics:

- 31 January: Introduction to UFO's; classification schemes; definitions.
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- 11 April: Sightings prior to modern era; ancient legends. Religious aspects.
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- 25 April: Interview with contactee.

Our thanks go to Mr. Fred Merritt, for sending us the schedule, and he also advised us that the course was a non-credit part of the Office of continuing adult education. Dr. Monroe hopes to have a credit UFO course next year. One of the 3 ladies involved in the recent abduction case in Kentucky spoke to the class also, and Fred gave a lecture on his imprint pattern work.

International UFO congress: June 24, 25, 26, 1977.

FATE magazine co-sponsored the recent UFO congress held in Chicago U.S.A. Here now are some of the lectures given:

- THE HARD EVIDENCE FOR UFOs. Prof. James Harder, Univ. of California.
- THE PSYCHIC SIDE OF UFOs. Dr. Berthold Schwarz, psychiatrist & consult. to FSR.
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- THE COMING OF THE SAUCERS. Raymond Palmer, former editor "Amazing stories"
- WORKING WITH THE POLICE ON UFO INVESTIGATIONS. Bill Pitts, investigator.
- THE UFO PHENOMENON AS A CONTROL SYSTEM. Dr. J. Vallee.
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NEWS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA.New A.C.O.S. member Organisation.

We are indeed very pleased to announce yet another new organisation, which has been formed by Mrs. Di Van Wijk in Cairns, Queensland. Di, who was a member of UFO Research-QLD., formed UFO Research-Far North Queensland, (UFOR-FNQ), and will be investigating reports in the north of Queensland. To this new group, we extend a warm welcome, and ask all our member groups in Australia, to make UFOR-FNQ feel like one of the "family". Their address is: 21 John St., North Cairns QLD. 4870.

Garry Little and Bill Stapleton, formerly operating UFO Research-VIC, have advised us that they are still active, and will operate in Victoria as independent investigators.

"Stone-age" UFOs?

A few weeks ago, news spread around Australia, that several "flying saucer" type stones, each weighing approximately 360 Kilos were unearthed in an open-cut mine in South Australia. One certain gentleman, who shall remain nameless, immediately jumped at the chance to declare them "flying saucers" which had fossilised, due to their slightly rusty colour. UFO Research Inc. (SA) have informed us that although the rocks DID appear in shape as the typical "flying saucer" shape, that analysis of the rocks had revealed the startling results that they were - - - -ROCKS in unusual formation. The certain gentleman, has since retracted his statement in the media.

UFOCON 2 TAPES.

Should anyone still be interested in obtaining copies of the tapes of UFOCON TWO, held last year, please contact the Deputy Chairman, Mr. Lad Godic, UFOR Inc. (SA) 2A castle Ave., Prospect South Australia 5082.

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Preparations are now well under way for the 3rd annual conference, to be held in Surfer's Paradise Queensland on November 12, 13 and 14. The conferences promises to be bigger and better than ever before, and it should take UFO Research-Australia further in co-operation and combined research.

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U.F.O. REPORTS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA.

So far this year, we have, on file, the following reports per state:

West Australia, 1 N.L., 1 C.E.I
 Tasmania 4 N.L., 1 C.E.2, 1 C.E.3
 South Australia 2 N.L.

SA77040. 2nd April 1977. 0010. N.L. UFO Research Inc. (S.A.)

Mr. Jeff Dix had been sitting down, listening to a record, and had just "felt" that he had to go outside for an unknown reason. He looked around the sky and saw a light over the Adelaide Hills. It had a bluish haze around it, then, over 5 seconds changed from blue to red, yellow, red then blue. It didn't scintillate like stars, and didn't move at all during the brief glimpse. He was frightened (which according to him is unusual) and ran inside to get his mother. He woke her up and they went outside, but nothing was to be seen. His mother commented that Jeff was scared by something. He further noted that the moon was almost overhead and that there were no stars in this direction. The size of the light was compared to his little finger at arm's length i.e. $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 degree. No sound was heard, and the area was covered partly with cloud.

SA77043. 7th April 1977. 1815. N.L. UFO Research Inc. (S.A.)

Mr. Arthur VanDyke was sitting facing west, looking out of window, whilst talking with wife and son, when he noticed a dull red stretch of light in a vertical position, about 20 degrees above horizon. All 3 witnesses watched the light, which was dull red in colour and consisted of a round head and tail. Mr. VanDyke went to get his son's telescope which took about 5 minutes and viewed object through that. The head was more distinguishable. The telescope has a 20x60x magnification and viewed through that, the head appeared to have a diameter of about $\frac{1}{2}$ that of a one cent coin. The object was observed for about 10 minutes, during which time it remained stationary. Then, after 10 minutes, the clouds obscured the object, and as the clouds persisted, the object could no longer be seen.

TA77024. 28th March 1977. 1855. N.L. TUFOIC.

A young teenager was returning home from friends, when just before 7 p.m. he noticed a round ball like light of moon size to the west. It goes out of sight in 15 seconds behind a mountain. Within 5 seconds, the same object is seen going back to the north very fast, and witness felt that it went to the northern horizon in a flash. Finally, some 10 seconds passed and the light came back towards the south, this time it seemed on a lower trajectory and the witness thought it was closer. A whistling sound was heard as it once again went behind the mountain. Light and dark red, orange and purple colours seen in irregular patterns on object. The light's trajectory seemed curved.

TA 77033. February 1977. 0100. C.E.3. TUFOIC.

Witness had got up when young child cried in early hours. Happened to look out window to east, and saw what looked to be a plane, at 45 degrees elevation. Had a white beam from edge like landing light. Watched for couple of minutes trying to make out what was going on. Thought it could be a plane accident, so had better get out and assist. Object came down just beyond oval, could see a big glow. Made quick time across oval, small rise opposite side of oval, 2-3 feet high. When he reached top of rise, he had unobstructed view. Some 75 feet down slope, probably 8-10 feet lower down was object just above ground. Source of light was from windows around side of object. Colouring was bright white to yellow from inside, no other light. Exterior of object looked like aluminium. Dome shaped with ribbing

(cont.)

(TA77033 cont.) from top. Asmall ledge around base which had a short vertical side. Electric motor type humming noise could be heard as approached, witness said as if motor was turning over, then, as it took off the noise increased slowly then increased speed as it climbed away at 60 degrees angle into eastern sky. Had a very good view of object as it moved off. It just receded into a dot in the sky and was gone. Whole incident lasted for 6-7 minutes. Through windows, about 3 or 4, witness saw a tall cylinder object, he likened it to a ships compass mounting. Also what he called "shapes". Motionless gray shapes that looked like the shape of a car seat (front) when seen from the rear. (with headrest). He thought they may have been just that as he saw no movement. The investigator thinks the witness was reluctant to call them anything more whilst telling a stranger about the sighting. Investigator feels in view of other reports the shapes could have been outline of "occupants" just as easily as seats ???

When he looked next day, grass beyond the oval had all been scorched in a circular area. Later the grass died and has been replaced since by a tougher cutting type grass. It stands out as a olive green coloured area. Circle measures 25 feet. Samples were sent to the University of Tasmania, and analysis proved negative. All they could advise was that there were some $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen variety of grass species in samples from inside and outside landing area. Nothing strange was found.

TA77034. 28th March 1977. 1856. N.L. TUFOIC (note also report TA77024)

Mrs Carr, always goes out just before 7 p.m. to view area and see if daughter is home just up the road. She opened the door into the hall and found it bathed in an orange/apricot glow coming through the glassed front door. Thinking of a late sunset witness hurried outside and was surprised to see to the west a full moon shaped light. It darted north then hesitated before dashing away to the northern horizon. She thought it looked brighter out in the clear sky than near clouds. Estimated elevation 2000 feet. Then light came back from the north and appeared to stop to west of witness who was enveloped in an orange/apricot beam or glow. Witness felt as if light was just on her and no one else as if it was meant to be a personal experience. Felt almost blinded for a second. Then the glow was gone and light was darting off to the NE going out of sight to south of Mtn. Sighting lasted for 5 or 6 seconds from time she saw light outside house. Waited 15 minutes but saw nothing else. Did this light dart back low behind her and was then seen whistling past by witness in report number TA77024?

COMMENTARY regarding multiple witnesses. by Allan Hendry Managing Editor I.U.R.

An incident which took place in California U.S. on March 22nd 1977, which is noteworthy ufologically, not for stimuli behind the report but for the manner in which it was perceived. The case offers food for thought on the issue of multiple witnesses.

"Much press attention was given to a sighting of 2 lights moving east for a duration of 15 seconds. NORAD indicated that it wasn't a re-entry; no one saw it on local radars, and it was seen by witnesses 350 miles apart from north to south, so the high altitude inferred coupled with the description provided all suggest a meteor that split up in the atmosphere. The intriguing aspect of this sighting is that it happened at 0330; yet it generated "UFO" reports to the Center for UFO Studies from 6 county sherriff depts, 8 police officers, and 9 pilots from San Francisco, Los Angeles and March AFB . . . all occupations deemed highly desirable for UFO witnesses. This is significant because, while the meteors could be seen over a broad area, it has been previously suggested that there are no potential witnesses available at 3 a.m. Had this been a "real" UFO, we certainly would have been in great shape.